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Gallagher Charitable Society brings Christmas cheer to community kids

By Allison Stanton
Staff Writer

On December 3rd, the Gallagher Charitable Society had their twenty-fourth event in the ballroom in Halleck Center; it started at ten o'clock in the morning and ended around one o'clock in the afternoon. This event included many events for children from less fortunate homes, from infants to teenagers. The turn out this year was estimated at 450 people. "Our goal is to provide a Christmas for those in need," said Vice President of the Gallagher Charitable Society and senior English major Courtney Tam, "We want the children to walk away with a coat, toys, and the memory of sitting on Santa's lap-the Christmas memories that we usually take for granted."

The children received warm winter coats, a warm meal, and also had different activities that they could do. These activities included: a crafts table, tables with toys that the children got pick out, tables with books for the kids to read and take, and numerous tables that included many games that the kids could play.

The toys are provided by Father Stang, C.P.P.S., the presents were bought with donations from sponsors, games were provided by the Gallagher Charitable Society, and the coats are donated from the Rotary Club in Rensselaer. Many of the stations were run



Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.

Gallagher Charitable Society volunteers play games like Candy Land with the children who attended the annual Christmas Party

by members of the Gallagher Charitable Society; however, many other volunteers came out and helped with many activities. Saint Joseph's baseball team also played a large role in helping these events run smoothly.

When the children entered the ballroom, they were able to use the ticket given to them at the doors to go and pick a toy, generously donated by Father Stang. After they picked out a toy, the kids made crafts with some

of the volunteers, such as, paper tree decorating, Christmas card designing, and face painting.

After crafts, some of the kids visited the book table and took a book that they could read. The game table included many games that the children could play with some of the baseball team.

One member of the baseball team, sophomore Business Administration major T.J. Shields said, "It allows the whole community to work together, and

Saint Joe's becomes involved with the community."

After a warm meal, the children were able to go and sit on Santa's lap, and receive a present and a coat. Seeing the children's smiles after coming off of the stage really let all of the volunteers, baseball players, and the Society members know that this year's success will bring all of those kids a little joy this Christmas season.

Concert Choir gives Christmas performance

By Jessica Ruschke
News Editor

Sunday, December 4th the Concert Choir performed their annual Christmas program titled Lessons and Carols in the Saint

Joseph's College Chapel. The concert included well-known songs such as "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" and "Little Town of Bethlehem" and other songs performed by the concert choir, including "Puer Natus in

Bethlehem" and "Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming."

The concert was actually a prayer service. Before each carol, a Scriptural reading was proclaimed, each one of which was chosen to remind everyone of the meaning behind the holiday.

The nine readings came from both the Old Testament and the New Testament. The audience was encouraged to sing along to the well-known carols, and the choir performed a couple of songs by themselves for everyone. It ended with a closing prayer and blessing from Fr. Kevin Sealf, C.P.P.S. "I liked the way it mixed together the carols and lessons," said freshman English major and choir member Donald DeYoung.

The last song of the evening was "Silent Night." During the song, the lights in the chapel

dimmed and the choir and congregation lit candles that blazed in the darkened chapel. Following the song, everyone departed in silence, giving everyone the opportunity to contemplate the message they had just heard and adding to the feel of the prayer service.

Lessons and Carols drew a large crowd of students, faculty, staff, and students' families. The majority of the chapel's pews were filled and when everyone joined in the songs, the chapel was engulfed in sound. "I was impressed with how many people showed up. It definitely carried the Christmas spirit," said DeYoung.

The Concert Choir spent a month in preparation for the concert starting right after their last concert on November 6.



Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.

The Concert Choir leads everyone in carols during their Christmas performance.

Campus holds candlelight vigil for homeless youth across the nation

By F. H. Gonzalez
Staff Writer

This year Campus Ministry hosted the Seventeenth Covenant House Candlelight vigil at the St. Joseph's College Chapel. This was also the twenty-first anniversary of the prayer vigil for the foundation.

Started in 1972, Covenant House has provided shelters across the nation to take care of the nation's homeless youth. They have extended their outreach to help young people acquire shelter, adequate healthcare and keep children from joining gangs.

Each year a candlelight vigil is held to spread awareness to local communities about the pervasiveness of youth who are either homeless or facing difficulties in their lives. Today, Covenant House extends its outreach across the nation, as well as new programs in Latin America.

Bro. Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S.,

a Saint. Joseph graduate, has been in charge of organizing the vigil on campus, and this year he worked extra hard to see that everything went well. Campus Ministry and the men's and women's soccer teams also helped out. The soccer teams, under the guidance of Coach David Stroud, started a t-shirt fundraiser to donate clothes to local Covenant House shelters. During the prayer service, donations were given by those who attended.

During the Vigil several student speakers shared accounts of the those whose lives were assisted with the help of Covenant House. Among the speakers were Michael Korman '10, Alex Adkins '12, Maggie Schmitt '12, Kristin Philabaun '12 and Jake Hellinga '12. The grade school choir from St. Augustine School lent their voices for the songs performed along with a piano solo by Associate Professor of Communications Sally Berger, and junior History major James



Covenant House helps homeless youth across the nation and SJC is proud to help the cause each year. (Courtesy of Google Images).

Bertucci leading the choir in Amazing Grace. All who attended participated in the candlelight procession in which the entire group formed a circle around the chapel creating

a solemn atmosphere. Bro. Tim said, "It takes a lot of work to get this all together, but it's important that students are aware of those who are less fortunate, especially around Thanksgiving and the

Holidays." To learn more about Covenant House visit <http://www.covenanthouse.org/>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

12/6 College Store Campus Appreciation Sale

12/8 Annual Christmas Buffet

12/9 Improv Show in Theatre

12/12 Pre-Christmas Mass

12/12 - 12/15 Finals Week

12/15 Christmas Break begins

“Battle of the Sexes” Students debate gender issues on campus

By Rachel King
Staff Writer

On November 15, 2011 students participated in the Battle of the Sexes. The battle of the sexes was a way for both sexes to sit down and talk in a controlled environment. It is about being able to act like young adults. Every person who put in a valid answer received a 10% off coupon to the book store. It was set up in a debate format. The girls were asked a question, and they answered. Then, the guys were able to give a rebuttal if they wanted to. The next question would be for the guys to answer, and the girls would get the chance to give a rebuttal.

The girls and guys felt strongly about all of the questions that were asked. One question that the girls were asked was do you think there are chivalrous guys on campus? Feelings were mixed. Some said that there were some

chivalrous guys and others said chivalry was nonexistent. The guys were asked: Do you think there are double standards? Almost all of the guys thought there were double standards and thought that was unfair because they said men are not all the same.

Another question given to the girls was: what is your interpretation of the Puma Pound? They gave a range of responses. Some said they thought they were okay, others said it is okay to be just friends with them, and others said to stay away. The guys rebuttal was that they are not all bad, they do the trick or treat with the kids from the youth center, trick or treat for the hungry, and they do other community service. Freshman Biology major Erin Hill said, “The battle of the sexes was a good way for both sides to be heard in a controlled situation. It was also very cool to listen to the opinions and hear what other people think.”

Columbian Players see Rock of Ages in Chicago

By Erin Hill
Staff Writer

Shakespeare had an idea that “All the world’s a stage.” The Columbian Players here at Saint Joseph’s College see the world that way. The Columbian Players took a trip to Chicago to see other performances there.

This year they took nineteen people to see the musical Rock of Ages on Saturday November 12, 2011. The group rented a Puma bus and were on their way early in the morning. They had time to break up into groups and wander the city before the show. They were able to see the sights

Chicago had to offer them and spend time being with each other. Shortly before show time, they met back at the Oriental Theatre to watch the Rock of Ages musical. This musical takes place during 1987, along the Sunset Strip. A small town girl met a big city rocker and in Los Angeles’ most famous rock club, they fell in love to the greatest songs of the 80s. It’s Rock of Ages, an arena-rock love story told through the mind-blowing hits of Journey, Night Ranger, Styx, REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister, Poison, ASIA, Whitesnake and many more. Members who went said it

was a great musical, and they were glad they were able to go. Sophomore Mass Communication major Katie Dittman said, “The musical was my favorite part. It wasn’t like any other musical I have ever seen. It was pretty much like going to a rock show.” With songs like “Don’t Stop Believin’”, “Hit Me with Your Best Shot”, “I Wanna Rock”, and “We’re Not Gonna Take It; how could it not sound like a rock concert? After the musical was over, the Columbian Players made their way back home. They not only saw a musical, but they also saw a show that they would never forget.



The cast of Rock of Ages make the audience feel the power of music. (Courtesy of Google Images.)

All You’re Ever Going to be is Mean

By Rande Portteus
Guest Writer

“She gave me a look.”
“She just hates me! For no reason!”
“We used to be friends, but now she won’t talk to me.”
We’ve all heard things like these, from our friends, from our sisters, or just around campus. It seems like girls are just plain mean. To many people, there seems to be no reason for it. But there has got to be some sort of reasoning behind the loathing that some girls have for each other.
As petty as it may sound, in my opinion guys are one reason. Girls feel like they have to compete against each other for attention. And when one wins out over another – stand back. You may be saying, “I’ve never been that girl.” You know, the jealous one, the one who desperately wants a boyfriend. But it’s not about not “winning” the guy. It’s about feeling inferior. When you feel like someone is better than you are, when you feel like you’re someone’s “second choice,” it’s difficult to like the “winner.” Some of us swallow our pride and do the best we can to be civil, but others ... not so much.
Besides this, guys have an amazing ability to divide and conquer. I’m not saying all guys. But some of them do. And some of them cause rifts on purpose. Do you realize how much easier it is for a guy to get what he

wants when you feel threatened by another girl? And how much harder it is when girls present a more united front, so to speak? As long as girls hate each other, it’s ten times easier to get to them.
My next reason is one that you’ve probably heard over and over: the pressure of society. There is an immense pressure on girls to be perfect. And the standards of perfection today just aren’t achievable. I will never be that thin, my hair will never do that, and my acne just won’t go away. I’m decently pretty – but it doesn’t take much to make me feel like crap.
I’ll give you an example. The other night, I had to get dressed up for an event. I was talking with my friend, a guy, and another girl walked by us. She was gorgeous. And I thought I looked pretty good. But then, “Every time I think I look good, she walks by, and my self-esteem just plummets,” I said. My friend was confused. “It’s a girl thing.” Was my only explanation. I will never look like that. And yet, I hold myself to these standards, making me dislike the ones who can.
Jealousy plays a big role in it. Many girls are perfectly fine with their appearance and with who they are. More power to you. I’m not one of them. I haven’t got it together in the least. So when I see someone who does, or who appears, too, I’m jealous. Do you know how hard it is to like someone when you’re jealous of

them? It’s pretty damn hard. If you were just a little less perfect, I and many other girls might like you a lot better.
Another reason I think might be the cause is that women take things so seriously. Whether it’s education (like me), sports, or something else. Take, for instance, America’s Next Top Model. Now imagine that entire show, only with men. It would be so boring, because half the fun of the show is how much those girls hate each other. If it were guys, they could care less if so-and-so won this competition or if someone was wearing the same outfit. Women care. A lot. About everything. Which makes it easy to blow the smallest thing out of proportion and turn it into a reason to hate someone.
Overall, I think there’s really one reason girls seem to hate each other so much: we never feel good enough. How can we, in a world that imposes such high standards on us? Hating other girls doesn’t really solve anything, though, and in fact it’s rather pointless. Because chances are, that beautiful girl, that smart girl, that girl that a social butterfly – they’re just as flawed as you are. In conclusion, I’ll give you a quote from one of my favorite books of all time, *Pride and Prejudice*, from one of my favorite characters of all time (the pertinence of this quote? They are talking about accomplished young women):

“A woman must have a thorough knowledge of music, singing, drawing, dancing, and the modern languages, to deserve the word; and besides all this, she must possess a certain something in her air and manner of walking, the tone of her voice, her address and expressions, or the word will be but half-deserved.”
“All this she must possess,” added Darcy, “and to all this she must yet add something more substantial, in the improvement of her mind by extensive reading.”
[Elizabeth Bennet] “I am no longer surprised at your knowing only six accomplished women. I rather wonder now at your knowing any.”
Overall, girls are just too mean to each other. It is completely ridiculous and I with that it would stop. The girls that feel a need to attack other women out of petty jealousy really need to grow up and stop stooping to such a low level. It really does not make you look any better when you attack other girls. It actually just makes you look a little sad. Even though I understand why girls do it, I just will never see why they see it is necessary. Ladies, you are ladies, act like it and stop hating on each other. Show girls some love, tell them they look nice when they do and tell them they are smart when they are. Make yourself better by telling girls how well they are doing.

Cheers to the Freakin Weekend I’ll Drink to That...

By Meigan Rennels
Opinions Editor

Or not.
Most people at SJC are aware of the alcohol policy. It is not really that hard to understand. At Saint Joseph’s, if you are an underage student you cannot be anywhere near alcohol; even if you are not drinking. Can we take a moment to think about this? If Mary Jane has a lot of friends who are 21 and they are drinking according to the rules on campus, even if Mary Jane is going to hang out with them and have nothing to drink, she will get in trouble.
Does it make sense that the rules of campus punish students for wanting to be around other people? Does it make sense that instead of teaching students how to have fun responsibly, SJC punishes students for simply being around alcohol? If a student is being responsible and not drinking underage, why does this student then get in as much trouble as a student who was drinking?
As a student at SJC I live in an over-21 apartment and I have the ability to watch a movie with a glass of wine, or to have a few other friends over to hang out. However, I am not allowed to invite friends who are under the age of 21 to my room and then have a glass of wine. If I am sitting in my apartment with a drink and one of my underage

friends happens to stop by, my apartment is subject to being written up.
Another aspect to the alcohol policy that does not make sense to me is the fact that if one person in a room or apartment gets written up, their roommate(s) do as well. This simply does not seem very fair. If I leave for the weekend and do not know what my roommates are doing and they get written up, I will be written up as well. This seems a little unfair considering I have no control over what my roommates do while I am not on campus.
By no means do I think that SJC needs to drastically lighten the drinking policy, I do however believe that SJC needs to consider the unfair standards to which they hold students. I do understand the need to prevent underage drinking, and I respect SJC for holding their students to such high standards, but why is it necessary to prevent underage students from being anywhere near alcohol? Why is it necessary to punish students who are nowhere near campus when something happens with their roommates?
Over the past few years campus has been considering changes to the alcohol policy. The Student Association has discussed with members of the faculty and staff the topic of allowing alcohol in the dorms in over-21 rooms. But why has the issue of punishing innocent students

never been raised? It would be no trouble for Security to carry a breathalyzer with them when writing students up for alcohol violations.
Why not breathalyse students who claim to be sober and punish them from there? Why are there not better ways for SJC to deal with students drinking. It is an important and delicate matter, but Saint Joseph’s treats it simply and assumes that everyone is guilty. Students are not allowed any leeway to defend why they were present around alcohol or what happened that they were somehow breaking a rule. For the most part, students are guilty no matter what they have to say for themselves. I am not trying to paint SJC as some ultimate bad guy, I think

that a lot of times Security is very generous and understanding, But when they are not, they leave students no chance to defend their reputations. The rules at SJC are somewhat too constricting to allow justice to take place.
The alcohol policy at The College is something that SJC really needs to work on and I hope a reasonable solution can be reached to make Saint Joseph’s College a more student-friendly place. Students and staff should work together to find a more fair and just solution to the alcohol policy here at SJC. Working on this policy can mean big changes that can improve life on campus for students and security.

Have your voice be heard!

Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?

Are their concerns in *the Observer* that need to be addressed?

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus?

Are there issues you think need to be discussed?

Tell us about it! The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Meigan Rennels at mrq7698@saintjoe.edu attached as

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The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword

By Brandon Bennett
Features Editor

The *Legend of Zelda* series celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary this year, and to mark this occasion, the sixteenth installation and newest game in the series, *Skyward Sword*, was released on November 20. The game introduced many changes to the franchise, as well as revolutionizing the controls of the Nintendo Wii system.

Fans of the *Zelda* series know that the name can be misleading, as the games follow the adventures of Link, a young man destined to save the world again and again throughout time. Princess Zelda, the titular character of the franchise, plays her own role in each game as well.

The *Legend of Zelda* is arguably one of gaming history's best and most influential series. *Ocarina of Time*, released in November of 1998, has been often lauded by critics and users as not only the best *Zelda* game, but also the greatest game ever made. In 2008 and 2010, Guinness World Records declared that *Ocarina of Time* is the highest-rated game ever reviewed.

Skyward Sword has done for the Wii what *Ocarina of Time* did for the Nintendo 64. The Wii was released in 2006, and while it has been highly successful worldwide, the motion control remotes that distinguish the system never fully allowed gamers to use them in the way desired. Now, with the use of the Wii MotionPlus control, gamers can truly control every

aspect of Link's movements. The art style of the game resembles impressionist art. This allows for more exaggerated characters, emphasizing their strengths and their weaknesses, which is an important aspect of the swordplay of the game. With the MotionPlus control, players swing the Wii remote, and Link mirrors their actions on screen. Enemies will react to your movements, so every swing you

been characterized by exploring an overworld area and solving dungeons filled with puzzles, while the story progresses throughout. *Skyward Sword* follows a similar formula, but it does manage to change things up. The game begins in the world of Skyloft, where a variety of islands float above a cloud barrier separating the sky from the fabled surface world. Link, our hero, is a young man attempting to reach

mysterious black tornado carries Zelda down to the surface. Destiny holds much in store for Link, and soon, armed with the Goddess Sword and the spirit that rests within it, he sets out for the surface to save his friend. After a brief journey through the first dungeon, the game's villain is introduced, and Link must race against him to reunite with Zelda. The first third of the game follows the traditional style of

discover new items that will help him in his quest. *Skyward Sword* is a brilliant entry in the *Zelda* franchise. The game utilizes the familiar elements of past games, yet manages to create a new and interesting storyline. *Zelda* games often do not link up chronologically and appear to be unconnected, but *Skyward Sword* finally gives us a definitive origin story that connects all of the games together and reveals why the many different incarnations of Link and Zelda are constantly tasked with defeating evil, typically in the form of the evil lord Ganondorf (the main villain of many of the games). Overall, *Skyward Sword* is a remarkable game that has finally allowed the Wii's motion control system to live up to its potential, while also taking the *Zelda* series in a bold new direction. After twenty-five years, the series continues to show that it stands among gaming's finest. As Nintendo prepares to move into the next generation of consoles, *Skyward Sword* is a fitting send-off for the Wii.

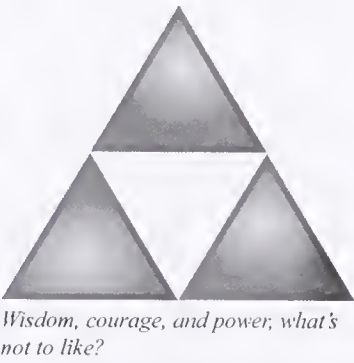


"The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword is the greatest Zelda game ever created. It's the best game for Wii and one of the finest video game accomplishments of the past 10 years." --IGN.com (Photo courtesy of Google Images).

make counts. At long last, the Wii has delivered a game that allows the console to live up to its full potential. The *Zelda* games have often

knighthood among the Skyloft people. One day, as Link and his childhood friend, Zelda, are flying on their Loftwings, guardian birds that are bound to the people, a

Zelda games, with Link rushing off to save our damsel in distress. Some twists send the plot in new directions, and Link often has to backtrack to certain areas to



Wisdom, courage, and power, what's not to like?

The Immortals: Like 300, but With Gods

By Alan Austin
Features Writer

It came to theaters on 11-11-11. *Immortals* was a movie that I finally got to see over Thanksgiving break. I have to say, "Man what an intense movie!" The entire film was epic and had a pretty good story line as well.

The movie is about this peasant named Theseus, whom Zeus chooses to eventually save all of humanity from this ruthless army, led by King Hyperion (played by Mickey Rourke). Theseus obtains a supernatural bow from the gods, which, of course, helps with taking out the bad guys.

This movie had me simply amazed. The effects and the people were so fitting that I would honestly change nothing with the movie. I realize that the Internet Movie DataBase (IMBD) gave it a moderate rating with 6.5, but I simply do not agree. A nine would be more suiting.

Sure, it was not as awesome as *The Expendables*, but the action with the connection to story must be applauded. As an action movie junky, I have seen many movies that do action sequences that make no sense at all. I dislike those scenes due to no connection to anything. I



Corey Dowds bears a startling resemblance to the star of *The Immortals*, Henry Cavill, in terms of physique.

cannot get into an action scene, bc it blowing stuff up or fighting epic with swords, without a reason. When you watch older movies, it is comical to watch the main character get into fights with

random people just because they "looked suspicious." I wonder what type of world we would live in if people had this reaction on a normal occasion. This movie did well at putting meaning behind

every fight scene, and I am so glad. The biggest thing I took out of this movie was a surprise at Mickey Rourke. Honestly, he always plays that character who

is a good man but misunderstood, examples being *The Wrestler* or *Sin City*. In this movie, however, Mickey was purely evil! He made the Grinch, Hannibal, Count Dracula, and the Terminator look like girl scouts selling cookies! A very scary villain to say the least, this king destroyed villages without even a look of sorrow. If you get a chance to watch this movie I would definitely watch it, unless of course you do not like action movies. The story line was concrete, and no fighting scene was too unrealistic (except when the gods fight, but come on! They are flippin' gods!). This movie gets the two thumbs up from me!



Mickey Rourke plays the evil King Hyperion in *The Immortals*.

<http://www.upcoming-movies.com/movie-news-images/the-immortals-movie-image-1.jpg>

Glover Releases Camp to Start Career

By **Corey Dowds**
Features Editor

You have some of your typical rap- when you are lifting in the weight room or working out within proximity of the football field, you will be listening to Lil’ Wayne, Gucci Mane, or Wiz Khalifa. Obviously these 3 dynamic rappers have a slew of fans and record sales; I don’t necessarily view them as “relatable” so to speak. While that may not be important to a lot of fans, I like to be able to relate to, and more importantly understand the lyrics that come from artist’s songs.

To me, rapping about more than one subject is important too. I understand if your whole life revolves around the rap game, the sex that comes with success in the rap industry, or smoking weed every single day since you exited your mother’s womb, but to me, I like to hear about more subjects than just that. The important thing that a lot of rappers miss out on is the obvious relatable choice- rapping about your life before you were a famous rapper. What many artists are afraid of is to be judged by their fans as soft or too sensitive or something along those lines. The point that I am ultimately alluding to is, if you are interested in listening to songs that are relatable, understandable, and perhaps some of the best lyrics you will ever hear, than you should check out Childish Gambino’s debut album on a label, Camp.

First of all, let me start out by saying this album exceeded my expectations. Honestly, I am as big of a Gambino girl as any other fan, but I “pumped the breaks” so to speak when I heard he was releasing an album on a label. I realized that much of the album would be to altered by the producers and become more commercial. I was pleasantly surprised to find out that the lyrics were not dumbed down, and it still came off the

same as his other work. What also surprised me is that upon multiple listening’s it also comes off as a step forward from any of his work, in terms of not sticking with what he’s familiar with. Those two statements seemingly contradict each other, but hear me out, Gambino’s game has evolved to the point where he is doing things outside his regular comfort zone. What has stayed- the flow, the clever lyrics, and the regular beats. What has changed- the sound of the music, in terms of influence. Camp has some R&B and even electronic influences, which is pretty far off his regular tone. Another dimension of his work is auto tune, which before you explode in anger, again, here me out. Auto tune is just a way to make something sound different- and what can you say is wrong

with that? Many fans of rap and music in general are outraged to see their favorite artists introduce auto tune to their repertoire, but to me, if an artist can add another dimension to his music, he should experiment and see what is best for his sound. He uses it well; coupled with electronic tones, an auto tuned rap track turns into a dance club rug-cutter! I know the carpets in my room have suffered because of Gambino’s new style. Overall the album is varied in terms of style and topic. From auto tuned songs mentioned earlier to deep instrumental songs such as “L.E.S.” “L.E.S.” debuts about 3/4 the way through the album, and ultimately alters the tone of the album. It heavily changes the flow of the album- from heavy songs that sound

Lil’ Wayne-esque to a song that sounds like it was orchestrated by Beethoven. It has heavy violins that make the song sound like it’s a part of a symphony with rap lyrics pasted on top it. The album is covered with mentionable single songs like this, but the whole album is a cohesive piece that flows well together. From song one to thirteen it is like a movie, Gambino illustrates a theme that is more or less his life up to this point. If you bought the album you received a download of 4 singles, which are excellent as well.

Overall, the album is ambitious when you put it in proportion. You have a new musical artist who has yet to release an album on a label, signing to one of the most popular and highly rated indie labels in glassnote records, and having

topics ranging from his love life, fame and fortune, life in general, and even rapping self-deprecating lyrics about his previous music among other things. Camp has received positive ratings overall, praising Gambino for his metaphor saturated lyrics and the ability to make fun of himself while stil getting a more powerful message across. One negative review from the notoriously pretentious Pitchfork. com bashed Gambino for being “self-obsessed” and “uniquely unlikable.” This was literally the only review I have read that has rated this album negatively, giving it a 1.6 out of 10! I’m not sure if people at Pitchfork or just too big of hipsters to appreciate a rapper that got his foot in the door with comedy, but to me that plays a big role in Pitchforks seemingly spiteful review.

Camp comes off as a crisp and new chapter in the Gambino’s musical novel. Hopefully this album will kick start Gambino’s musical career. Gambino has said in song and in person that rapping is just something that he does in his free time, so there is most definitely more music to come from him in the future, and who knows, perhaps someday Childish Gambino can be mentioned in the same breathe as his favorite rapper, Lil’ Wayne. If nothing else, we can recognize Donald Glover as James Franco’s counterpart, meaning this: A celebrity with genuine talent in more than on field. A writer, and a dynamic performer, and that alone is something to be praised. Camp, at the very least is something to be checked out at the very least. Although I love Childish Gambino and everything he does from music to comedy- I will not overrate this album- it does have songs that are simply worth overlooking at times. I give Childish Gambino’s Camp an 8.5/10.



Gambino’s Camp received generally positive reviews- but did endure some criticism for “swaggerjacking” primarily from artist Kanye West.

Making A Top 10 List

By **Kristina Hemmerling**
Features Writer

What’s your favorite movie? Or book? Or TV show? What about your top ten favorites in anything? How often do you think about what your favorite things are? What you think is perfectly made or written or sung. Really, it takes a lot of time and consideration to figure these things out. Recently, my friend got me to start considering these topics.

What are my top ten favorite movies, books, TV shows, musical artists, albums, video games... anything can be a topic. Over the time it took me to think about each of these, I also thought about the act of doing this.

Think about every movie you’ve ever watched, or each book you’ve read, or all of the musical artists you’ve listened to

in your whole lifetime. That’s a long time span, and that’s a lot of movies, books, and music.

Now that you understand how big of a pool you have to choose from, you then consider other topics. “Oh that movie is super hilarious!” or “Oh, that book was written really well,” or “Yeah, the graphics in that game are super duper” can all be initial deciding factors in your top ten lists. It all depends on what you look for in your favorite things. If you like comedy best, funny movies will probably dominate your list. If you think grammar and sentence structure are more important than the storyline, then nonfiction books might fill your list. If you think the visual experience over anything else is most important, good graphics and impressive concerts would weigh heavily on

your lists. But to me, these considerations aren’t even the most important. Yes, it’s good to know what you find most interesting about something, but there is much more to think about.

“Which of these things that I’ve done and watched have had a super huge impact on my life?” Because that should really be what these lists are about. You’re choosing your top ten favorites of something, but you have to think about why these things are your favorites.

Graphics, grammar, and humor should be considered, but how you felt and what you experienced while these things were going on is more important; at least that’s what I think. What is it about the experiences you’ve had with each of these things that makes them your favorites? Is it

something that happened while you watched the movie, or who you watched it with? Is it the way the band’s lyrics make you feel like they’re singing to you? Is it how many hours (or days) have you spent playing that one particular video game? My lists took me some time to make up, but the one I finished first was top ten musical artists. It was the easiest by far for me. I can still distinctly remember four years ago when I first heard my favorite band. I remember what I was doing, and how it felt to hear that first song by them. Up until that point I could never choose a favorite. There were bands I liked, but none seemed to be the best to me. It may sound really cheesy, but that’s how it is. Sometimes you just know when something is amazing the very first time you

hear it. That’s why I think these lists are a pretty big deal. Not only do you really have to think about yourself and what you like, you need to really dig down to understand why you like them. Just because I think Date Night is one of the funniest movies ever does not mean that it is on my top ten list, there has to be more to it than that. So I think anyone who reads this should get together with some friends and try to come up with your top ten lists, and then compare and see what you think. If it’s anything like my experience, you’ll have fun and you might figure out some cool stuff about your friends and yourself.

Girls Basketball Fall in Intense Triple Overtime

By Katie Guernsey
Staff Writer

This past weekend saw the Lady Pumas achieve an exciting win and barely lose a heartbreaker. The Lady Pumas are currently 4-3 in their season. They opened up the season with an exhibition game against Division I Ball State University, falling to BSU 82-50 in the end. The exhibition season also included a match-up against Valparaiso University, losing by 3 points with senior Tatiana Ortiz putting up 20 points for the Pumas, and IUPUI, which also put another loss on the schedule.

However the Lady Pumas rallied after this difficult exhibition season, beating #21 ranked Grand Valley State University 66-47. In this game senior Britney Cruse scored her 1000th point.

The team went 1-1 in both the Quincy Tip-Off tournament and the Ashland University Holiday Inn Express Classic, before kicking off their first conference match against Northern Kentucky University.

As any spectator watching the NKU game would agree that the game could possibly end up being the most exciting of the season. Down by 3 with only seconds to go, sophomore Jasmyne Reynolds hit the three pointer to put the game into

overtime. At the end of the first overtime the Pumas were down by three and a desperate shot was thrown up by senior Montrell Mills, who missed the shot but was fouled. She turned out to be practiced at the foul line and made all three, sending the game into double overtime. At the end of the second overtime the Pumas found themselves once again down by 3, but Britney Cruise swished a 25-foot three pointer to tie the game and send it into a third overtime. Unfortunately, Northern Kentucky pulled ahead in the triple overtime and won it 106-101. Britney Cruise, Tatiana Ortiz, and Montrell Mills had a combined 69 points. Even though it was a tough loss, the Lady Pumas showed incredible heart and determination.

The Lady Pumas came back through in their match up against Bellarmine University. The game was tied going into the last few seconds of the game, and Montrell Mills put up what turned out to be a game-winning lay up with only 4 seconds left on the clock.

The Lady Pumas have kicked off with an exciting season. They will host Wayne State University next Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Fieldhouse. Come out and support the Pumas, as they have deserved each and everyone of your support after this past weekend's great playing.

Pumas Start Strong Against Tough Opponents

By J.J. Miller
Staff Writer

After 5 Games, 1,050 minutes, and 395 points to their opponents 383, the Pumas have opened their season up with a 3-2 record. After dropping the season opener against Hillsdale College 69-71, the Pumas rebounded with a 76- 62 win against Indiana Institute of Technology.

That led them to the University of Indianapolis Classic, where the Pumas gained a pair of victories. In the first game, the Pumas defeated the Northern Michigan Wildcats 81-76, and in their second match, which went to double overtime, the Pumas edged out Lake Superior State University 99-92. In their return the Richard F. Scharf Alumni Fieldhouse, the Pumas took on Northern Kentucky University in a thrilling 70-82 loss.

Through these five games, Junior Dayvon Sloan has led the Pumas offensively, scoring 20.2 points per game and dishing out 5.4 assists per game. Philip Collins has contributed 14.2 points per game along with 3.2 assists per game and 5 rebounds per game, while freshmen Corey Clifton has brought in an average 9 points per game while shooting 62.5% from 3-point range.

The Pumas as a team have outscored opponents 209-180 in the second half, and 25-18 in overtime, which has made their games interesting, to say the least.

Over the holiday break, the Pumas will finish up their non-conference play with Olivet Nazarene, IUPUI, Central State, and Michigan Technical University, before resuming GLVC Conference play January 5th against Quincy.

It's College Bowl Season

By Jeremy Butterfield
Sports Editor

From December 17, 2011 till January 9 2012 there will be college football, and a lot of it. There are 35 bowl games this year, which means 70 teams made a game. Of those 70, 10 Big Ten Schools are going.

There are 5 BCS bowl games, which are the games that have the top teams in the country playing each other. The National Championship is going to be teams from the same conference and division; the LSU Tigers and the Alabama Rolling Tide. Between the two teams, they have 1 loss. The two teams faced each other in the regular seasons and LSU come out on top in a 9-6 overtime game.

Oklahoma State had a great season and won their conference, which Alabama did not so each team wants to prove that they are the best in the nation. Although some of the bowl games aren't as prestigious as the teams would have hoped, many are grateful to simply have made it to a bowl game.

For example, Purdue has had a less than spectacular season, and it came down to their rivalry Old Oaken Bucket game against Indiana to see if they made it into a bowl game.

No matter what team you support, there will be plenty of football over the holiday season for fans of college football to enjoy.

Little Caesars
Western Michigan vs. Purdue
Dec. 27 4:30 p.m. ESPN

Bridgepoint Education Holiday
California vs. Texas
Dec. 28 8 p.m. ESPN

Champs Sports
Florida State vs. Notre Dame
Dec. 29 5:30 p.m. ESPN

Kraft Fight Hunger
Illinois vs. UCLA
Dec. 31 3:30 p.m. ESPN

TicketCity
Houston vs. Penn State
Jan. 2 Noon ESPN

Outback
Michigan State vs. Georgia
Jan. 2 1 p.m. ABC

Taxslayer.com Gator Bowl
Ohio State vs. Florida
Jan. 2 1 p.m. ESPN2

Rose Bowl Game presented by Vizio
Wisconsin vs. Oregon
Jan. 2 5 p.m. ESPN

Tostitos Fiesta
Stanford vs. Oklahoma State
Jan. 2 8:30 p.m. ESPN

Allstate Sugar
Michigan vs. Virginia Tech
Jan. 3 8:30 p.m. ESPN

Allstate BCS National Championship Game
No. 1 LSU vs. No. 2 Alabama
Jan. 9 8:30 p.m. ESPN

Puma Women Pull Off Home Victory

By Stephanie Wiethop
Special Assistant Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph's College women's basketball team picked-up its fourth win of the season on Saturday afternoon at Richard F. Scharf Alumni Fieldhouse. Montrell Mills' (RSr., Akron, Ohio/Wabash Valley) lay-up with four seconds left defeated Bellarmine University 73-71.

The Knights (4-3, 0-2 GLVC) held a 29-23 lead through the first 14 minutes of play. After a pair of free throws from Kayla Stout (Fr., Warsaw, IN / Warsaw Community), a lay-up from Montrell Mills, and a three-point basket from Jasmyne Reynolds (So., Milwaukee, Wis./ Milwaukee Rufus King), the Pumas (4-3, 1-1 GLVC) were able to take the lead 30-29. The Knights to go into the locker-room with a 43-32 advantage.

Britney Cruse (Sr., Merrillville, Ind./Merrillville) started the Pumas 14-3 run to open the second half to tie the game at 46-46 with 14 minutes remaining. SJC converted on 50 percent of their shots in the second half to keep-up with the Knight's offense.

With just over a minute to go, Natalie Appelhans (Sr.,

Kokomo, Ind./Northwestern) scored a three point basket that put the Pumas ahead 69-68. A pair of free throws from Stout put the lead at three points (71-68) with 30 seconds remaining. The Knights came down the floor and converted on a three-point basket by Allison Matheis that tied the game at 71.

What looked like another overtime game for the Pumas, turned into a thriller in the final possession. Montrell Mills, with four seconds remaining in the game, broke through the BU pressure and converted a game-winning lay-up.

Montrell Mills led the Pumas with 22 points, five rebounds, and four assists. Kayla Stout had 13 points and seven rebounds while Britney Cruse had 13 points. Tatiana Ortiz (RSr., Chicago, Ill./

Upcoming Home Games

Women's Basketball

12/10/2011
Wayne State University
1:00 PM

1/12/2012
University of Missouri - St. Louis
5:30 PM

1/14/2012
Maryville University
1:00 PM

Men's Basketball

1/12/2012
University of Missouri
7:30 PM

1/14/2012
Maryville College
3:00 PM

All games will be on 93.3 The Joe

St. Louis added 11 points. Natalie Appelhans (Sr., Kokomo, Ind./ Northwestern) converted two clutch three-point baskets in the second half to finish with nine points.



Jason Chiora gets ready for a free throw shot.
(Photo taken by Father McFarland)



The band shows little interest in the other team. (Courtesy of Fr. McFarland)

PACKERS STILL PERFECT AFTER A FEW CLOSE GAMES

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Editor

As football fans pass more than the half way point in the NFL season the anticipation keeps building for an undefeated season from the Green Bay Packers. The Packers are now 12-0 after just beating the New York Giants in a thriller of a game that came down to a last second kick from Mason Crosby to win the game 38-35. They have now officially clinched a 2011 playoff

spot.

This marks the Packer's 19th consecutive win after including their playoff win from last year. The Packers now are the second team to have 19 consecutive wins. The Other Team being the Patriots from 2003-2004. That Patriots team went on a winning streak of 21 consecutive teams. In fact the Packers last loss was Dec. 19, 2010 at the Patriots.

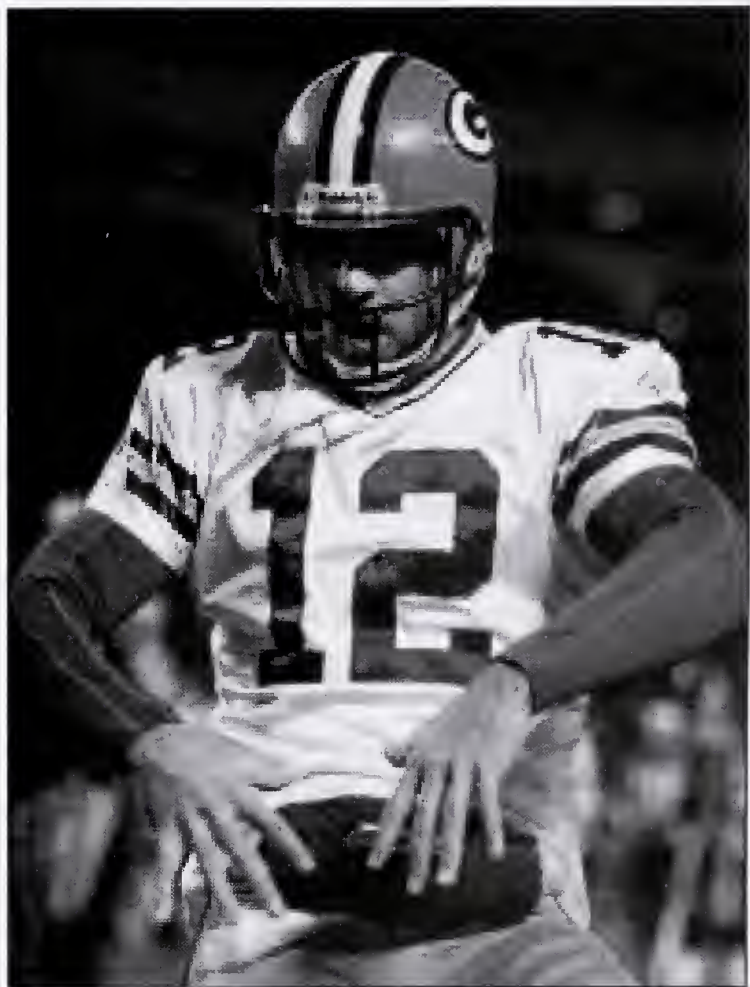
The only team to have gone undefeated for a whole season

was the 1972 Miami Dolphins when they went 16-0 after losing the super Bowl the previous year. Soon, the comparisons will come out from the TV announcers between the Packers and the Dolphins.

With four games remaining the road will not be easy for history. Yes, pressure will mount, but out of the remaining four teams three have winning seasons. Their next game against the Oakland Raiders are currently leading their division, the AFC West will be a test. They also have to play two more division games against, their bitter rivals, the Chicago Bears and then close out the season against the Detroit Lions. Both teams are bidding for play off spots as well, hoping to catch a wild card spot.

Perhaps, one bright start with the tough schedule is that the Packers only have to travel for an away game against the only losing record team remaining, the Kansas City Chiefs. However, the Chiefs have been an off and on team having just come off a win against the Chicago Bears. The Chiefs won all four of their games in November.

The Packers have depth to pull off an undefeated season. In last year's Super Bowl win and playoff run the Packers had 7 players on injured reserve, and as of now the Packers do not have many players injured. The only key players injured are Linebacker A.J. Hawk, captain of the defense, and Running Back Ryan Grant. Both have pulled calf muscles and therefore should return quickly to action.



Aaron Rodgers does his belt. (Photo by google.com)

6 Players Make All-Conference in the GLFC

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Great Lakes Football Conference announced its All-Conference team on Friday afternoon with the Saint Joseph's College football team being well represented on the annual list. Twelve players earned All-GLFC distinction with three SJC players earning First Team accolades.

Anthony Rouba (Sr., Chicago, Ill./St. Laurence) highlights the final installment of the All-GLFC Team as the league's Defensive Player of the Year. Rouba finished his final season as the team leader in sacks (6) and tackles for a loss (16.5). He also was third on the team with 49 tackles.

Scott Chapman (RSr., Brook, Ind./South Newton) the Pumas' leading receiver was tabbed as the leagues' top receiver. Chapman is ranked 77th in the NCAA after making 66 catches for 697 yards and two touchdowns this season.

Ben Gomes (RSr., Indianapolis, Ind./Ben Davis)

rounds out the First Team for SJC after finishing the season with a team-best 72 tackles. Gomes also ranks 35th in the nation in total tackles.

Tyler Callaghan (Fr., Elburn, Ill./Kaneland) and Kody Woods (Fr., Indianapolis, Ind./Pike) found places on the All-GLFC Second Team. Callaghan started all 10 games for the Pumas, making 25 catches for 294 yards and two touchdowns. Woods help anchor an offensive line that help produce 321 yards of total offensive while allowing less than three sacks a game.

Sam Gonzales (Sr., Valparaiso, Ind./Portage) finishes

his career with his fourth selection to the All-GLFC team. Gonzales solidifies the Second Team after recording 46 tackles and 4.5 sacks in his final season of football.

Earning All-GLFC Honorable Mentions are Billy VandeMerk (So., Riverside, Ill./Riverside-Brookfield), Julian Walker (RSr., Indianapolis, Ind./Southport) EJ Woody (Fr., Springville, Ala./Springville), Gary Ycoman (Fr., Mishawaka, Ind./Penn), Chris Edgerton (Fr., Boynton Beach, Fla./American Heritage) and Sheldon Martin (Fr., San Diego, Cal./Lincoln).



Sam Gonzales goes to high five Cody Sparyberry. (Photo by Father McFarland)

Puma Athlete Profile:

By Katie Guernsey
Staff Writer

Kristina Hemmerling

Kristina Hemmerling is a Creative Writing major and Art minor. She is a Sophomore. She is a hurdler on the Track team.



Hometown: Schererville, IN

How long have you been running? For 6 years.

How did you get involved with Track? My friend talked me into going to the Track meeting at my high school, and then the Track coach convinced me to start hurdling a few months later.

If there was a movie made about your life who would you have play you? Kirsten Dunst

What is your favorite TV show? Fullmetal Alchemist

What movie can you watch over and over again?: He's Just Not That Into You

If you could party with one character from Harry Potter who would it be? Fred and George Weasley

If you could have one super power what would it be? To control gravity

What is one thing that people don't know about you?: I was almost an extra in the upcoming Superman movie

Anthony Rouba to Play in 2nd Annual National Bowl Game

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The National Bowl Game is a football All Star Game for college seniors from across the Nation. It is an invite only game where only All-American and All-Conference Players are eligible. Over 80 of the best players are confirmed and will travel to Allentown, PA from as far as Colorado, Michigan, New Mexico, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

The National Bowl is an all division game where players come from schools like Southern Oregon, and Lafayette to DII and DIII football schools like IUP, Cortland State, and Central Oklahoma. Saint Joseph's College will be represented by Anthony Rouba (Sr., Chicago, Ill./St. Laurence). Rouba highlighted the final installment of the All-Great Lakes Football Conference Team as the league's Defensive Player of the Year. Rouba finished his final season as the team leader in sacks (6) and tackles for a loss (16.5). He also was third on the team with 49 tackles.

The 2nd Annual National Bowl Game presented by East Preps LLC. is set for the famous J Birney Crum Stadium that seats 15,000 in Allentown, Pa on Sunday December 4th at 1pm. The game is one of the few



Anthony Rouba (Photo by Father McFarland)

contests where players can be scouted to go Pro as the NFL's Houston Texans will review game film, practice film, and player measurements.

Five Pro Leagues will be in attendance as the AFL's Philadelphia Soul, Cleveland Gladiators, the CFL's Montreal Alouettes, and IFL's Reading Express will be in attendance to scout players for their rosters and training camps. Last year several Alumni went to the NFL, CFL, AFL, IFL, and UIFL and this game carry's heavy anticipation as East Preps also runs the DII-DIII Pro Day & National Scouting Combine that tests the best Division II and Division II Seniors in January after the Bowl which has seen 40+ Players go on to play professionally in just two years.

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for December 8
(219) 866-2222
fountainstonetheaters.com

Arthur Christmas (PG)
2:40, 4:50, 7:00

Courageous (PG-13)
2:00, 6:20

Happy Feet 2 (PG)
2:30, 4:40, 6:50

The Muppets (PG)
2:20, 4:30, 6:40

Twilight: Breaking Dawn
(PG-13)
2:10, 4:20, 6:30

Coming Soon
Hugo
New Year's Eve
Chipwrecked

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for December 8
(219) 866-0086
www.ritzcinema.net
All movies begin at 7:00 M-F
Matinees Sat/Sun 2:00

The Ides of March (R)

Last in the Alphabet, First in Love: Dan Zimmer Dating Tips

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Editor



Dear Dan,

What the heck do I get my significant other who has everything already for the holidays coming up?

Well, first off if they have you worrying about their gift for the holidays, I'm sure they have everything they need. You. Think of it that way.

What are the things you remember the most of each other? What things made you most happy? Honestly, it is each other. So maybe

you skip out on the malls, the door-busting deals, the sales, and all the crazy mothers fighting over toys at 5 am in the morning, which sadly I had to witness this year after Thanksgiving.

What I'm saying is forget the gifts in a box and give the gift of a memory. Things come and go. We grow out of new clothes eventually, books get read and put up on a shelf, and new little gadgets lose their luster after a bit, but the times you share with each other can always last.

They become stories that will always be able to be shared. It'll be an on going gift. So consider these things. Now, I'm not suggesting a date to the movies or that type of thing, that happens.

Make it something a bit more than that. Maybe you both treat yourselves to something out of the

ordinary. Say a massage session, or an over the top dinner that college students would never be able to afford.

Who says it even has to be during the holidays? You can still give it right? Plan something you both could do during the warmer months. A beach trip, or a concert might be fun.

What are activities you both enjoy? He or She will have to enjoy it because 1) it's with you what could be better? And 2) they are doing something fun.

Do you have a dating question for Dan? Send it in to dzq7803@saintjoe.edu or post it on our Facebook page.

Over heard

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to ehq7585@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

~
"Are you hitting on my pizza?"

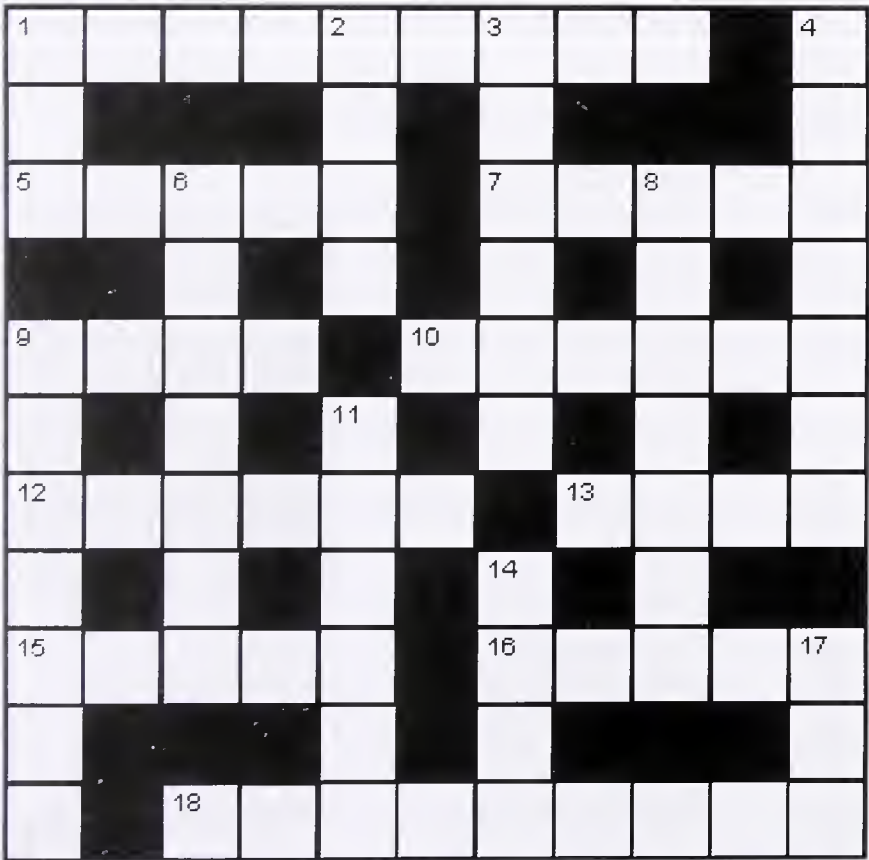
~
"I am never watching Adventure Time at four in the morning again."

~
"She stayed with him even though he had a mullet. That's true love!"

~
"It wasn't a massage, it was an experience."

~
"...and then he got mad at me because my tongue is too big."

~
"Nothing from Mexico is worth more than five bucks!"



Across

- 1. Oily or greasy (9)
- 5. Bet (5)
- 7. Young eel (5)
- 9. Land measure (4)
- 10. Sultry (6)
- 12. Dairy product (6)
- 13. Hex (4)
- 15. Crowd scene actor (5)
- 16. Hidden drawback (5)
- 18. Accumulated (9)

Down

- 1. Cutting tool (3)
- 2. Remedy (4)
- 3. Wildcat (6)
- 4. Contradiction in terms (7)
- 6. Article of clothing (7)
- 8. Findings of a jury (7)
- 9. Of times long past (7)
- 11. Attack (6)
- 14. Dull pain (4)
- 17. Concealed (3)

Reasons to Party

- December 12th 1923-Bob Barker's birthday
- December 13th 1928- Clip-on tie was invented
- December 14th 1911-South Pole discovered
- December 16th 1953-The first color TV program is aired
- December 17th 1903-The Wright Brothers make their first flight
- December 22nd 1956-Colo becomes the first gorilla born in captivity
- December 25th-Christmas Day
- December 29th 1862-The bowling ball is invented
- December 31st-New Year's Eve
- January 4th 1920-The blender is invented
- January 6th 1956-The dorm room refrigerator is invented
- January 8th-Elvis Presley's birthday

WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...have your hands be working cell phones or make the sound of a piano when you moved them?
- ...have the voice of Darth Vader or Alvin the Chipmunk?
- ...have a button that makes you happy or everyone around you sadder?
- ...fall down every staircase you come across or slam your hand in every door you use?
- ...your girlfriend leave you for your dad or your best friend make out with your mom?